

APPENDIX TABLE 1-21 
Average science literacy assessment scores for 15-year-old students participating in PISA, by education system: 2015

(Average score)

Education system	Average score	Comparison with U.S. score	OECD country and education system
OECD average	493	≈	na
Singapore	556	^	N
Japan	538	^	Y
Estonia	534	^	Y
Taiwan (China)	532	^	N
Finland	531	^	Y
Macau (China)	529	^	N
Canada	528	^	Y
Vietnam	525	^	N
Hong Kong (China)	523	^	N
Beijing, Shanghai, Jiangsu, and Guangdong (China)	518	^	N
South Korea	516	^	Y
New Zealand	513	^	Y
Slovenia	513	^	Y
Australia	510	^	Y
Germany	509	^	Y
Netherlands	509	^	Y
United Kingdom	509	^	Y
Switzerland	506	^	Y
Ireland	503	≈	Y
Belgium	502	≈	Y
Denmark	502	≈	Y
Poland	501	≈	Y
Portugal	501	≈	Y



Education system	Average score	Comparison with U.S. score	OECD country and education system
Norway	498	≈	Y
United States	496	≈	Y
Austria	495	≈	Y
France	495	≈	Y
Czech Republic	493	≈	Y
Spain	493	≈	Y
Sweden	493	≈	Y
Latvia	490	≈	Y
Russia	487	v	N
Luxembourg	483	v	N
Italy	481	v	Y
Hungary	477	v	Y
Buenos Aires (Argentina)	475	v	N
Croatia	475	v	N
Lithuania	475	v	N
Iceland	473	v	Y
Israel	467	v	Y
Malta	465	v	N
Slovakia	461	v	Y
Greece	455	v	Y
Chile	447	v	Y
Bulgaria	446	v	N
United Arab Emirates	437	v	N
Romania	435	v	N
Uruguay	435	v	N
Cyprus	433	v	N
Moldova	428	v	N



Education system	Average score	Comparison with U.S. score	OECD country and education system
Albania	427	v	N
Trinidad and Tobago	425	v	N
Turkey	425	v	Y
Thailand	421	v	N
Costa Rica	420	v	N
Qatar	418	v	N
Colombia	416	v	N
Mexico	416	v	Y
Georgia	411	v	N
Montenegro	411	v	N
Jordan	409	v	N
Indonesia	403	v	N
Brazil	401	v	N
Peru	397	v	N
Lebanon	386	v	N
Tunisia	386	v	N
Macedonia	384	v	N
Kosovo	378	v	N
Algeria	376	v	N
Dominican Republic	332	v	N

≈ = not significantly different from the U.S. score at the 0.05 level; ^ = significantly higher than the U.S. score at the 0.05 level; v = significantly lower than the U.S. score at the 0.05 level; N = no; na = not applicable; Y = yes.

OECD = Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; PISA = Program for International Student Assessment.

Note(s)

Education systems are ordered by 2015 average score. The OECD average is the average of the national averages of the OECD member countries, with each country weighted equally. Scores are reported on a scale from 0 to 1,000. Although Argentina, Malaysia, and Kazakhstan participated in PISA 2015, technical problems with their samples prevent results from being discussed in this report.

Source(s)



Kastberg D, Chan JY, Murray G, *Performance of U.S. 15-Year-Old Students in Science, Reading, and Mathematics Literacy in an International Context: First Look at PISA 2015*, NCES 2017-048 (2016).

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